

REMARKS

Counsel thanks the Examiner for her courtesy and assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application during an interview conducted on October 16, 2001. As indicated in the Interview Summary (Paper No. 9), Claims 1 and 17 as set forth above were discussed, and it was agreed that they distinguish over the listed prior art of record. Accordingly, since all of the remaining claims currently being considered in this application depend, directly or indirectly, from Claim 1, all such claims are believed to distinguish over the references of record, and to be allowable. (Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to overcome the grounds of objection and rejection set forth in paragraphs 5 and 8 of the Office Action.)

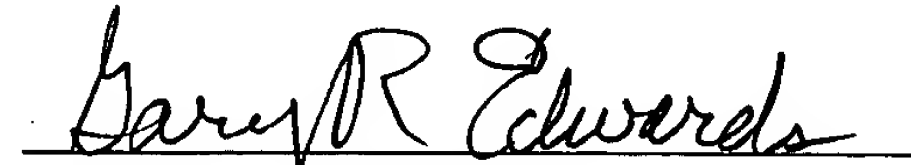
Concurrently, herewith, Applicant has submitted a translation of the priority document for this application, as discussed at the interview.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any

deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit
Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #225/48391).

Respectfully submitted,



Gary R. Edwards

Registration No. 31,824

CROWELL & MORING, LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 628-8800
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
GRE:kms
(CAM 38738.678)

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A decentralized power supply system for a vehicle, comprising at least one [dedicated] fuel cell system [, which] and other power generators, wherein:

the at least one fuel ^Ccell system is electrically isolated from the other power generators of the power supply system, [for] and is dedicated to supplying electricity to [at least one] an assigned electric consuming device[, wherein]; and

the at least one [dedicated] fuel cell system is [adapted to be] collocated with the [at least one] assigned electric consuming device on or in a structural [component] subassembly of the vehicle[, which can be preassembled as a subassembly].

2. (Amended) Power supply system according to Claim 1, wherein said structural component comprises at least one vehicle door on which or in which at least one fuel cell system is arranged for supplying electricity to [at least one] an electric consuming device of the vehicle door, the consuming device being at least one of a window lift mechanism, an outside mirror heater and an electric mirror adjusting system.

3. (Amended) Power supply system according to Claim 2, wherein said structural component comprises [at least one] a vehicle seat which can be movably fastened on the vehicle and on which or in which [at least one] the fuel cell system is arranged for supplying electricity to electric consuming devices of the vehicle seat selected from the group consisting of an electric seat heater and an electric seat position adjusting system.

6. (Amended) Power supply system according to Claim 1, wherein the fuel cell system comprises at least one fuel cell [or a group of fuel cells] and an assigned fuel supply system for the at least one fuel [cells] cell.

8. (Amended) Power supply system according to Claim 7, wherein [aid] said fuel storage device comprises a hydrogen cartridge.